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Golden

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(54) **SYSTEM, KIT AND/OR METHOD OF DECORATING A PAPERBOARD SHEET**

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(73) Assignee: **ArtSkills, Inc.**

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B26F 1/24	(2006.01)
A63F 3/00	(2006.01)

(52) **U.S. Cl.**

CPC ... ***B26F 1/24*** (2013.01); *A63F 3/00* (2013.01); *A63F 3/0005* (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**

CPC F21S 4/001; F21V 19/0005; A63F 3/00; A63F 3/02
USPC 434/81
See application file for complete search history.

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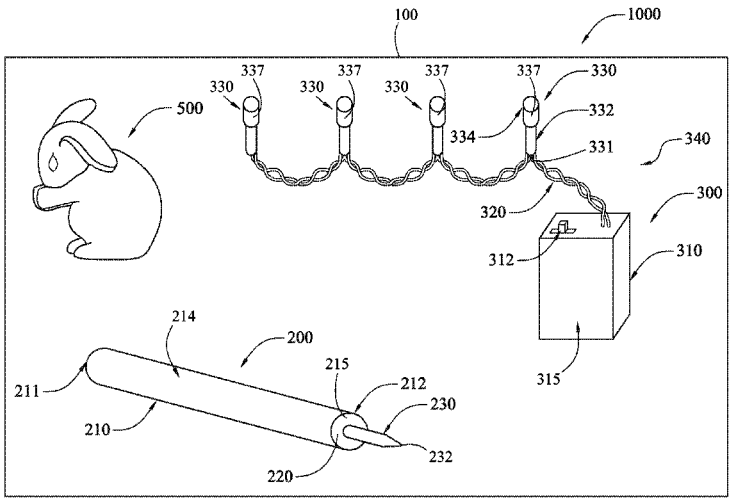
(74) *Attorney, Agent, or Firm* — Belles Katz LLC

(57) **ABSTRACT**

A display system or kit for displaying lights on a paper board product. In one embodiment, the invention can be a display system comprising: sheet of paperboard having a plurality of holes extending from a front surface to a rear surface of the paperboard; a light assembly comprising a string of lights and a controller comprising an internal power source, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state via the controller; and the light portions of the string of lights extending through the holes of the paperboard so as to protrude from the front surface of the paperboard, the wire of the light assembly located adjacent the rear surface of the paperboard.

13 Claims, 9 Drawing Sheets



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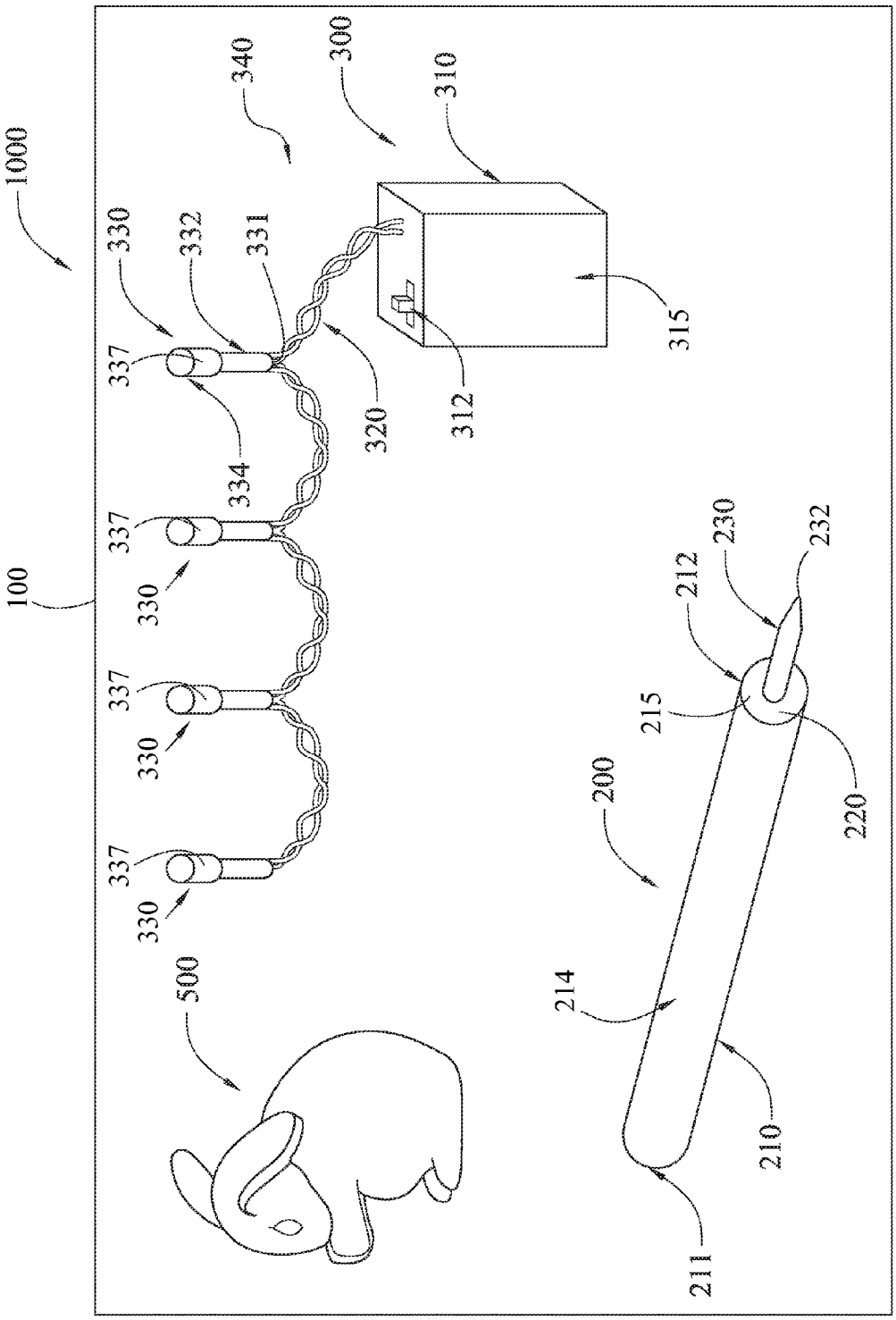
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FIGURE 1

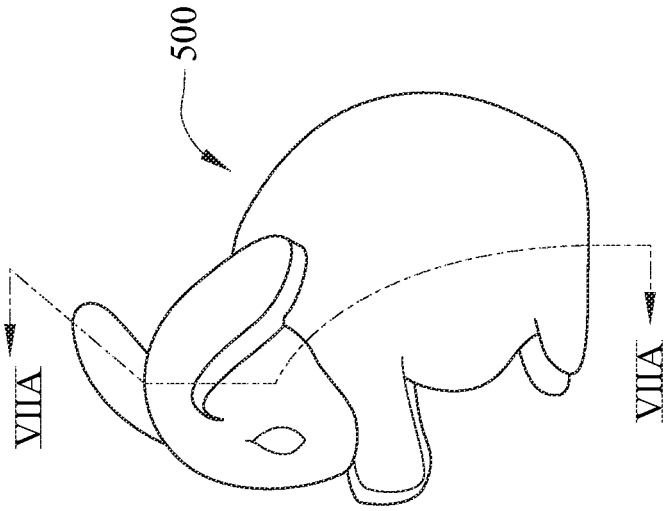

FIGURE 2C

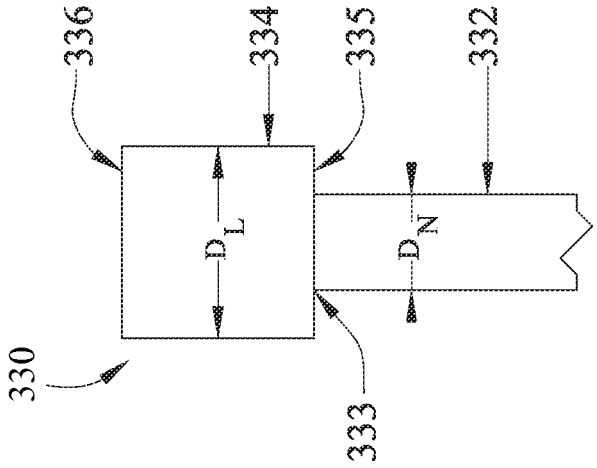

FIGURE 2B

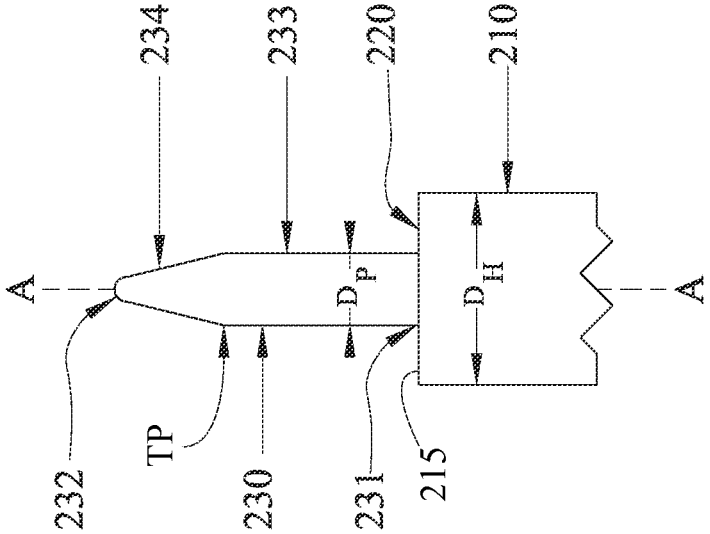

FIGURE 2A

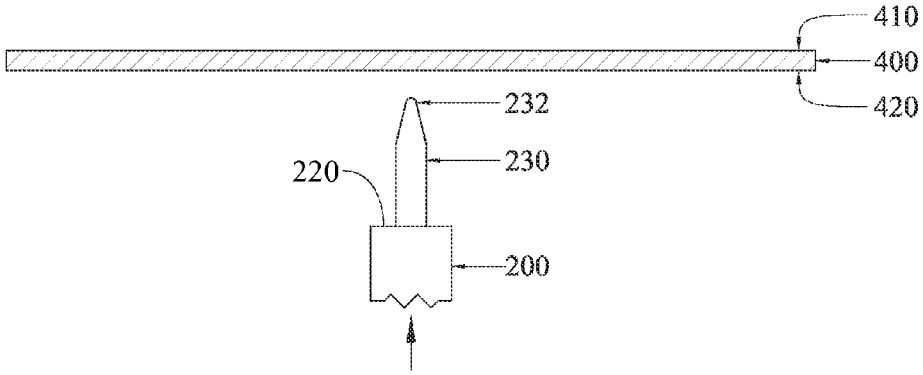

FIGURE 3A

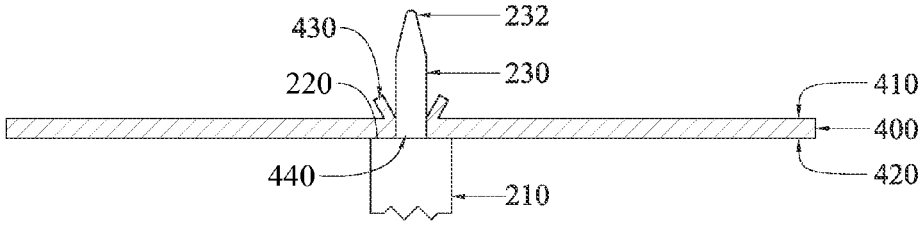

FIGURE 3B

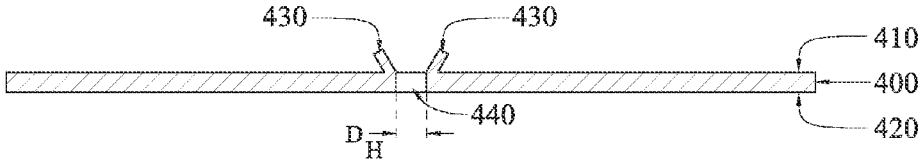

FIGURE 3C

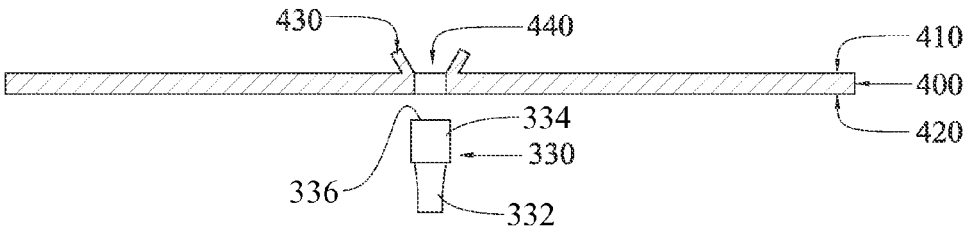

FIGURE 4A

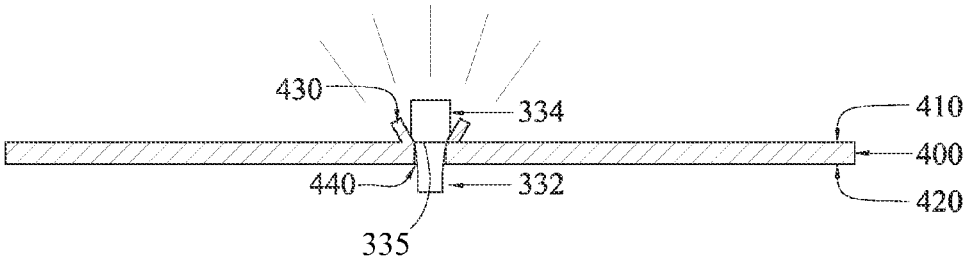

FIGURE 4B

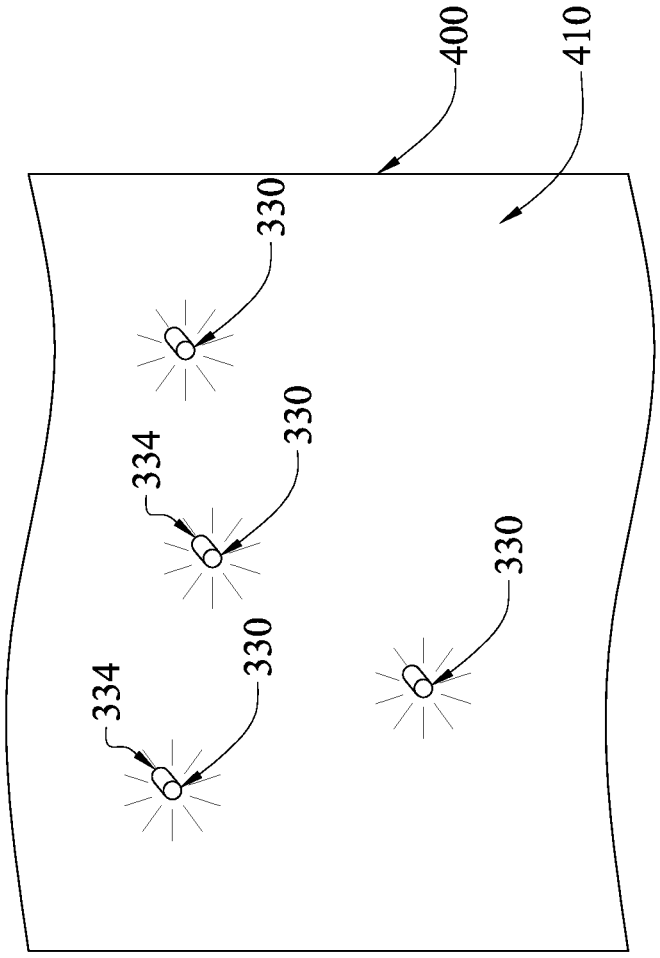

FIGURE 5

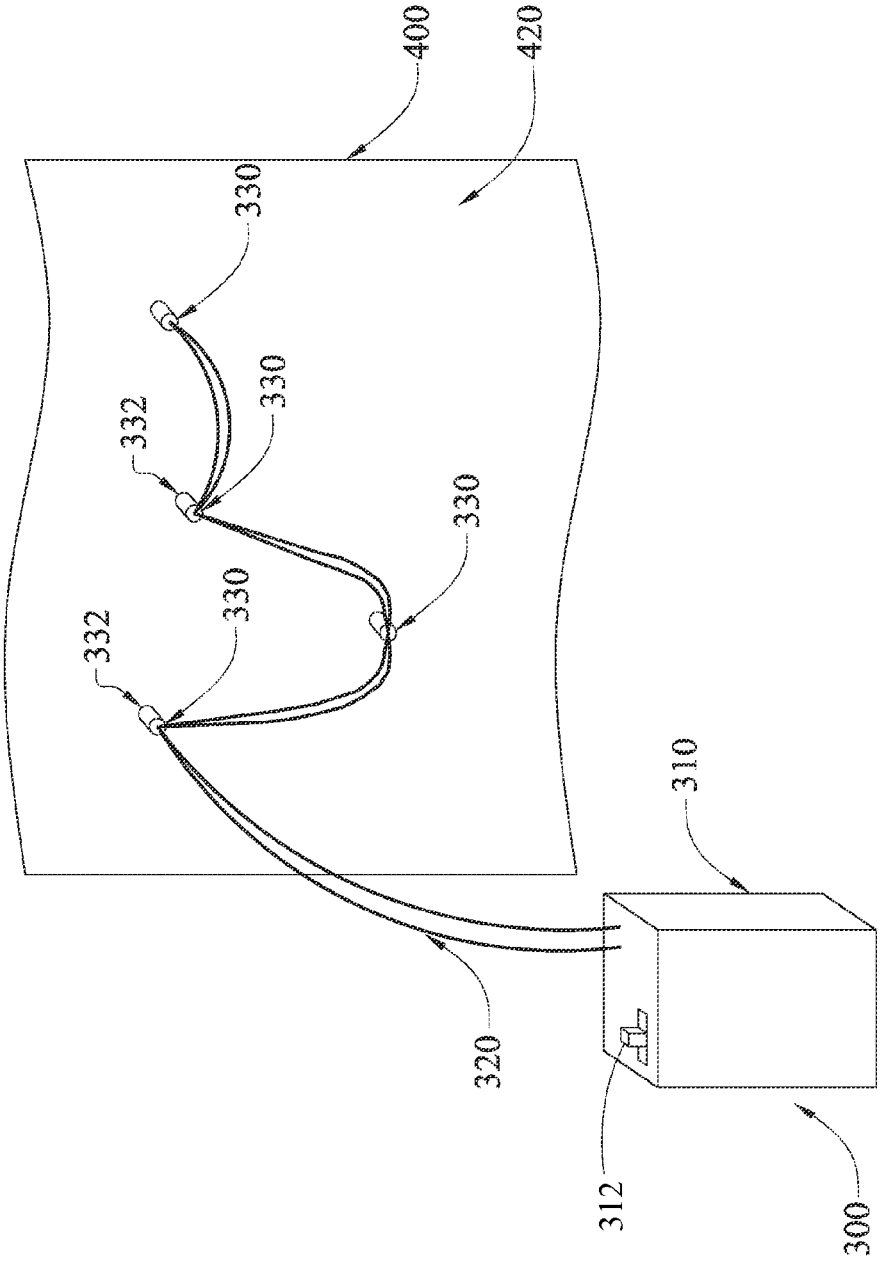

FIGURE 6

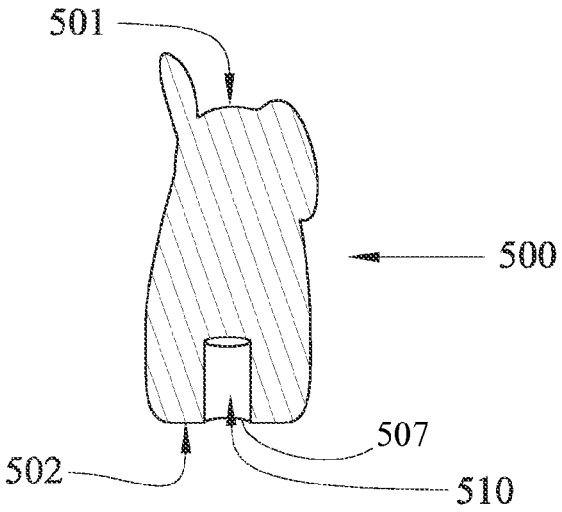

FIGURE 7A

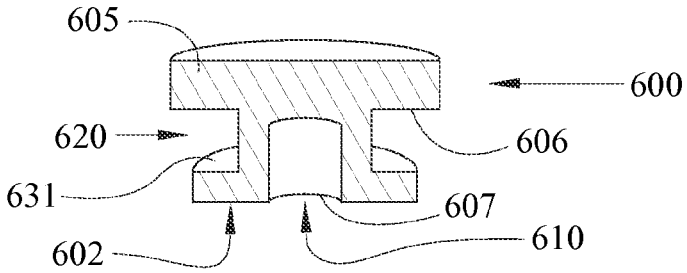

FIGURE 7B

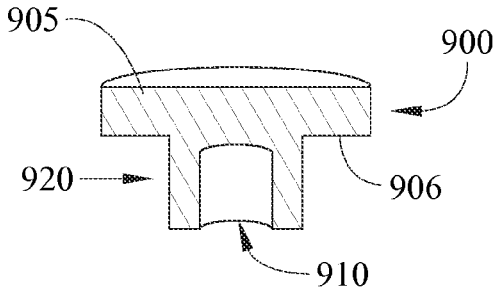

FIGURE 7C

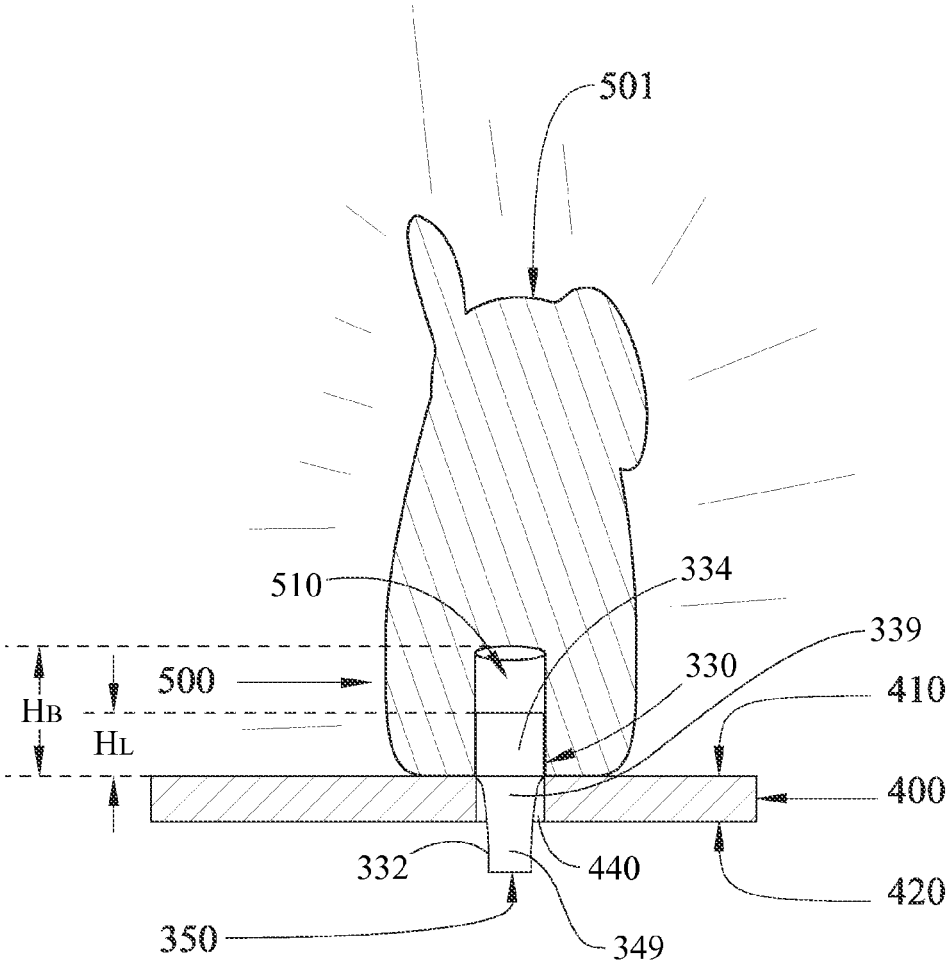

FIGURE 8

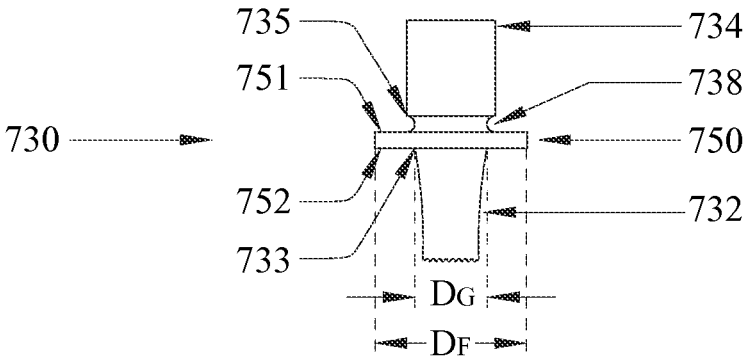

FIGURE 9A

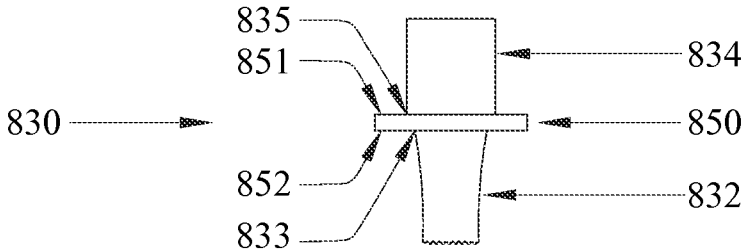

FIGURE 9B

SYSTEM, KIT AND/OR METHOD OF DECORATING A PAPERBOARD SHEET

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application claims the benefit of U.S. Provisional Patent Application No. 61/450,120, filed Mar. 7, 2011, the entirety of which is hereby incorporated by reference.

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates generally to a system, kit and/or method of decorating a paperboard sheet, and specifically to a reusable system, kit and/or method for displaying lights on a paperboard product in a variety of user preferred configurations.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Paperboard products, such as posterboard, are used by adults and children for both business and personal purposes. Paperboard is used for everything from school projects, presentations, elections, special promotions and special occasions. Paperboard products are frequently used to display information at events, and therefore are often cut, colored and decorated to catch the eye of observers. Furthermore, paperboard products come in a variety of colors, shapes and sizes, and may be decorated, manipulated, and/or combined in a manner that best conveys a desired message.

The decoration of paperboard products usually takes the form of drawing, coloring, printing and/or pasting decorations on the face of the paperboard. However, other then using bright colors and big, bold type, there are a limited number of ways to make paperboard stand out to grab the attention of observers. Therefore, there is a need for a kit that can bring greater attention to a decorated or displayed paperboard.

Another issue with existing paperboard is that the paperboard and decorations are usually thrown out after a single display because they are only good for one application. Thereafter, when the user desires to create a new paperboard for a new project, presentation, or special occasion, a whole new set of decorations must be created from scratch. Therefore, there is a need for a paperboard decoration kit that is reusable from one application to the next.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

The present invention is directed to a reusable kit for displaying lights on a paper board product in a variety of user preferred configurations.

In one embodiment, the invention can be a kit for decorating a paperboard sheet comprising: a package comprising: a hole punch comprising a handle portion, a punching portion and a shoulder between the handle portion and the punching portion, the punching portion having a tapered section that terminates in a distal tip; a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state; and wherein the light portion has a maximum transverse diameter and the punching portion has a maximum transverse diameter, the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion being substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion, the shoulder having a maximum transverse diameter that is greater than the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

In another embodiment, the invention can be a display system comprising: a sheet of paperboard having a plurality of holes extending from a front surface to a rear surface of the paperboard; a light assembly comprising a string of lights and a controller comprising an internal power source, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state via the controller; the light portions of the string of lights extending through the holes of the paperboard so as to protrude from the front surface of the paperboard, the wire of the light assembly located adjacent the rear surface of the paperboard.

In yet another embodiment, the invention can be a method of decorating a paperboard sheet comprising: providing a punch comprising a handle portion, a punching portion and a shoulder between the handle portion and the punching portion, the punching portion having a tapered section that terminates in a distal tip, the punching portion having a maximum transverse diameter; forming at least one hole in the paperboard sheet by pushing the punching portion of the punch through the paperboard sheet, the hole extending from a front surface to a rear surface of the paperboard sheet; providing a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state; and inserting the light portion of one of the light modules through the hole formed in the paperboard sheet so that the light portion protrudes from the front surface of the paperboard sheet, wherein the light portion has a maximum transverse diameter is, substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

In still another embodiment, the invention can be a kit for decorating a paperboard sheet comprising: a package comprising: a hole punch comprising a handle portion and a punching portion, the punching portion having a tapered section that terminates in a distal tip; a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state; and wherein the light portion has a maximum transverse diameter and the punching portion has a maximum transverse diameter, the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion being 0% to 10% greater than the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

In a further embodiment, the invention can be a kit for decorating a paperboard sheet comprising: a package comprising: a hole punch comprising a handle portion and a punching portion, the punching portion having a tapered section that terminates in a distal tip; a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state; and wherein the light portion has a maximum transverse diameter and the punching portion has a maximum transverse diameter, the maximum

transverse diameter of the light portion being substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

In still a further embodiment, the invention can be a display system comprising: a sheet of paperboard having a plurality of holes extending from a front surface to a rear surface of the paperboard; a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state; and the light portions of the string of lights extending through the holes of the paperboard so as to protrude from the front surface of the paperboard, the wire of the light assembly located adjacent the rear surface of the paperboard.

Further areas of applicability of the present invention will become apparent from the detailed description provided hereinafter. It should be understood that the detailed description and specific examples, while indicating the preferred embodiment of the invention, are intended for purposes of illustration only and are not intended to limit the scope of the invention.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

FIG. **1** is a perspective view of a kit comprising a package having a hole punch, a light assembly and a light transmissive cap in accordance with a first embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. **2**A is a front view of a portion of the hole punch of FIG. **1**;

FIG. **2**B is a front view of a portion of a light module of the light assembly of FIG. **1**;

FIG. **2**C is a front view of a generically illustrated light transmissive cap in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention;

FIG. **3**A is a schematic front view of the hole punch of FIG. **1** aligned with a bottom surface of a paperboard sheet;

FIG. **3**B is a schematic front view of the hole punch of FIG. **1** forming a hole through the paperboard sheet;

FIG. **3**C is a schematic front view of the paperboard sheet of FIG. **3**A after the hole punch of FIG. **1** has formed a hole therein;

FIG. **4**A is a schematic front view of the light module of FIG. **2**B aligned with the hole formed in the paperboard sheet in FIG. **3**C;

FIG. **4**B is a schematic front view of the light module of FIG. **2**B inserted into the hole formed in the paperboard sheet in FIG. **3**C;

FIG. **5** is a front perspective view of the paperboard sheet with a plurality of the light modules inserted into holes formed therein;

FIG. **6** is a rear perspective view of the paperboard sheet of FIG. **5** with a controller located adjacent the paperboard sheet;

FIG. **7**A is a cross-sectional view taken along line VIIA-VIIA of FIG. **2**C;

FIG. **7**B is a schematic cross-sectional view of a second embodiment of a light transmissive cap in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. **7**C is a schematic cross-sectional view of a third embodiment of a light transmissive cap in accordance with the present invention;

FIG. **8** is the schematic front view of FIG. **4**B with the light transmissive cap of FIG. **7**A coupled to the light module;

FIG. **9**A is a front view of a light module having a flange and an annular groove in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. **9**B is a front view of the light module of FIG. **9**A without the annular groove.

DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE INVENTION

The following description of the preferred embodiment(s) is merely exemplary in nature and is in no way intended to limit the invention, its application, or uses.

The description of illustrative embodiments according to principles of the present invention is intended to be read in connection with the accompanying drawings, which are to be considered part of the entire written description. In the description of the exemplary embodiments of the invention disclosed herein, any reference to direction or orientation is merely intended for convenience of description and is not intended in any way to limit the scope of the present invention. Relative terms such as "lower," "upper," "horizontal," "vertical," "above," "below," "up," "down," "left," "right," "top," "bottom," "front" and "rear" as well as derivatives thereof (e.g., "horizontally," "downwardly," "upwardly," etc.) should be construed to refer to the orientation as then described or as shown in the drawing under discussion. These relative terms are for convenience of description only and do not require that the apparatus be constructed or operated in a particular orientation unless explicitly indicated as such. Terms such as "attached," "affixed," "connected," "coupled," "interconnected," "secured" and similar refer to a relationship wherein structures are secured or attached to one another either directly or indirectly through intervening structures, as well as both movable or rigid attachments or relationships, unless expressly described otherwise. Moreover, the features and benefits of the invention are described by reference to the exemplary embodiments illustrated herein. Accordingly, the invention expressly should not be limited to such exemplary embodiments, even if indicated as being preferred. The discussion herein describes and illustrates some possible non-limiting combinations of features that may exist alone or in other combinations of features. The scope of the invention is defined by the claims appended hereto.

Referring first to FIG. **1**, a kit **1000** in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention is illustrated. The kit **1000** is used for decorating a paperboard sheet as will be discussed in more detail below. The kit **1000** comprises a package **100** that can be formed of a cardboard, plastic or other material. The package **100** is a container, box or other device that is used to contain the remaining components of the kit **1000** therein when the kit **1000** is located on a shelf in a store for sale or in a transport vehicle when being moved from the manufacturing site to the store shelf. Furthermore, the package **100** can be used to contain the components of the kit **1000** after the kit **1000** is purchased by a consumer in order to keep the components of the kit **1000** together. In certain embodiments, the package **100** includes indicia on its outer surfaces to indicate the contents of the package **100** and to provide instructions on use of the contents. Furthermore, the indicia may include manufacturer information, a barcode, illustrations of the product being used and other markings that are placed on packages that contain products for sale therein.

In the exemplified embodiment, the package **100** generally comprises a hole punch **200**, a light assembly **300**, and at least one light transmissive cap **500**. Of course, the invention is not to be so limited and in certain other embodiments the package **100** may contain the hole punch **200** and the light assembly **300** while omitting the light transmissive cap **600**. In such

embodiments, the light transmissive cap **600** can be packaged and sold separately from the package **100** containing the hole punch **200** and the light assembly **300**. Furthermore, in still other embodiments the package **100** includes the hole punch **200**, the light assembly **300**, and a plurality of the light transmissive caps **600**. Thus, the exact contents of the package **100** are not to be limited in all embodiments by that which is illustrated in the package **100** in FIG. **1**.

In certain embodiments, the package **100** is sold as a unit to consumers so that consumers can purchase the entire contents of the package **100**, and hence also of the kit **1000**, in a single exchange. In certain embodiments, the kit **1000** is intended to be used with a paperboard sheet **400** (see FIG. **3**A). Thus, in certain embodiments the kit **1000** also includes the paperboard sheet **400** such that the hole punch **200**, the light assembly **300**, the light transmissive cap **500** and the paperboard sheet **400** can be packaged and sold together. The paperboard sheet **400** may be any type of sheet that is known to be decorated for display during a presentation, as artwork or the like. Thus, the paperboard sheet **400** may be formed from, for example without limitation, matte board, posterboard, packaging blanks, foam board, rigid paperboard, bristle board, corrugated board, and other flat paper products that can be decorated and used to present content or other information to observers. Furthermore, it should be appreciated that while the invention will be described herein with regard to using the contents of the kit **1000** with the paperboard sheet **400** or other paperboard product, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments.

Referring to FIG. **1** and FIG. **2**A concurrently, the hole punch **200** will be further described. The hole punch **200** generally comprises a handle portion **210**, a shoulder **220** and a punching portion **230**. The hole punch **200** extends along a longitudinal axis A-A from a proximal end **211** of the handle portion **210** to a distal tip **232** of the punching portion **230**. The hole punch **200** has a length measured from the proximal end **211** of the handle portion **210** to the distal tip **232** of between 13-17 cm, more preferably between 14-16 cm, and most preferably between 14-15 cm. Of course, the invention is not to be limited by the length of the hole punch **200** in all embodiments.

As will be discussed in more detail below with reference to FIGS. **3**A-**3**B, the hole punch **200** is used to create a hole in the paperboard sheet **400** by inserting the hole punch **200** into and through the paperboard sheet **400** and then removing the hole punch **200** from the paperboard sheet **400**. In the exemplified embodiment, the hole punch **200** is formed from wood. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the hole punch **200** may be made out of any material that is capable of punching a hole through the paperboard sheet **400** such as, for example, metal, metal alloy, plastic, engineered wood and the like. Furthermore, in still other embodiments, the hole punch **200** may be made out of more than one material such that the hole punch **200** is formed from multiple components. For example, in certain embodiments the hole punch **200** may have a base formed out of one of the materials listed above and an overlayer formed from a thermoplastic elastomer or other rubber-like material to enhance the comfort and gripability of the hole punch **200**.

The handle **210** of the hole punch **200** extends from the proximal end **211** to a distal end **212**. Furthermore, the handle **210** of the hole punch **200** has a length measured from the proximal end **211** to the distal end **212** of between 11-14 cm, and more preferably between 12-13 cm. The distal tip **232** of the hole punch **200** has a length measured from the distal end **212** of the handle **210** to the distal tip **232** of the hole punch **200** that is between 0.5-3 cm, and more preferably between 1.3-2.0 cm. Of course, the invention is not to be limited by the length of the handle **210** of the hole punch **200** or the length of the distal tip **232** of the hole punch **200** in all embodiments. The distal end **212** of the handle **210** forms the shoulder **220** from which the punching portion **230** of the hole punch **200** extends. In certain embodiments, the shoulder **220** may be omitted such that the handle portion **210** transitions directly into the punching portion **230**.

In the exemplified embodiment, the handle **210** is an elongated member that is generally cylindrical in shape and has a substantially circular cross-section. Furthermore, the handle **210** comprises a smooth outer surface **214**. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the handle **210** may take on any other shape such as, for example, triangular, rectangular, hexagonal, or octagonal. Furthermore, in certain embodiments the outer surface **214** of the handle **210** of the hole punch **200** may include grooves or other undulations for more comfortable gripping by a user's fingers.

In the exemplified embodiment, the handle **210** comprises a substantially constant diameter D_H along the entirety of the length of the handle **210**. Thus, the diameter D_H is substantially constant from the proximal end **211** of the handle **210** to the distal end **212** of the handle **210**. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the diameter D_H of the handle **210** may not be constant in certain other embodiments, including embodiments that have grooves or other undulations for user comfort as described above. In the exemplified embodiment, the diameter D_H of the handle **210** is between 5-10 mm, and more preferably between 7-8 mm, and still more preferably approximately 7.5 mm. Of course, the invention is not to be limited by the particular measurements of the diameter D_H of the handle **210** in all embodiments.

As noted above, the shoulder **220** is located at the distal end **212** of the handle **210** and extends transverse to the longitudinal axis A-A. In the exemplified embodiment, the shoulder **220** extends orthogonal to the longitudinal axis A-A. The shoulder **220** acts as the interface between the handle **210** and the punch portion **230**, and forms an annular flange **215** at a base **231** of the punch portion **230**.

The punch portion **230** comprises the base **231**, the distal tip **232**, a non-tapered section **233**, a tapered section **234**, and a maximum diameter D_P. In the exemplified embodiment, the maximum diameter D_P of the punch portion **230** is between 2-6 mm, more preferably between 3-5 mm, and still more preferably approximately 4.5 mm. Of course, the invention is not to be limited by the specific measurements of the maximum diameter D_P of the punch portion **230** in all embodiments.

The base **231** of the punch portion **230** is connected to the handle **210** at the shoulder **220**. The punch portion **230** is generally conical in shape such that the maximum diameter D_P of the punch portion **230** is located at the non-tapered section **233** of the punch portion **230**. Of course, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the punch portion **230** may take on shapes other than conical as long as the punch portion **230** is capable of punching holes through the paperboard sheet **400** as will be described below. The punch portion **230** is substantially concentric with the handle **210** along the longitudinal axis A-A and the shoulder **200** extends radially outward from the punch portion **230**. The base **231** of the punch portion **230** has a substantially circular cross-section. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the cross section of the base **231** of the punch portion **230** may be any other shape such as, for example, triangular, rectangular, hexagonal, or octagonal.

The punch portion **230** extends from the shoulder **220** to the distal tip **232** along the longitudinal axis A-A. More specifically, the non-tapered section **233** of the punch portion **230** extends from the shoulder **220** to a transition point TP between the non-tapered section **233** and the tapered section **234**. The tapered section **234** of the punch portion **230** extends from the transition point TP and terminates in the distal tip **232**. The non-tapered section **233** of the punch portion **230** has a substantially constant diameter and the tapered section **234** of the punch portion **230** has a diameter that decreases with axial distance from the transition point TP towards the distal tip **232**. Thus, the tapered section **234** tapers inwardly as it extends from the non-tapered section **233** towards the distal tip **232**. In certain embodiments, the non-tapered section **234** of the punch portion **230** may be omitted such that the punch portion **230** tapers along the entirety of its length from the shoulder **230** to the distal tip **232**. In the exemplified embodiment, the maximum transverse diameter D_H of the handle **210** is larger than the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **230**. Thus, in the exemplified embodiment the shoulder **220** has a maximum transverse diameter that is greater than the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **230**.

Referring to FIG. **1** and FIG. **2**B concurrently, the light assembly **300** will be further described. The light assembly **300** generally comprises a controller **310** and a string of lights **340**. The string of lights **340** generally comprises a plurality of light modules **330** that are arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire **320**. Each of the light modules **330** comprises a light portion **334** that is capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state. In certain embodiments, the controller **310** is used to control the illumination of the light portions **334** of the light modules **330**. Thus, the light assembly **300** is configured to provide power to and light up the light portions **334** of the light modules **330** as desired.

The controller **310** comprises a housing **315** that contains an internal power source (not shown), an integrated circuit (not shown), and a switch **312**. The controller, via the power source, switch and integrated circuit, is configured to deliver power to the string of lights **340** thereby illuminating the light portions **334** of the light modules **330**. In the exemplified embodiment, the housing **315** is formed from a hard plastic material to provide the controller **310** with structural rigidity in order to protect the internal components (i.e., the internal power source and the integrated circuit) against damage. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the housing **315** of the controller **310** may be made of other suitable materials such as, for example, metal, metal alloy, or soft plastic materials. In certain embodiments, the power source comprises two AA batteries. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the power source may be any other power source such as, for example, a plug for AC power, a plug for DC power, or another type or number of batteries.

The switch **312** is an on/off switch that causes the controller **310** to transmit power to the string of lights **340** in an "on" position and causes the controller **310** to cease the transmission of power to the string of lights **340** in an "off" position. More specifically, the integrated circuit is configured to transmit power to the string of lights **340** when the switch **312** is in the "on" position and prevent the transmission of power to the string of lights **340** when the switch **312** is in the "off" position. In the exemplified embodiment, the switch **312** is a sliding switch that is manually slidable from the "on" position to the "off" position. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the switch can be a button-type switch or other biased switches, a toggle switch, or the like. Furthermore, in still other embodiments the switch **312** may be operated remotely by a remote control via infrared, Bluetooth, or the like.

As noted above, the string of lights **340** comprises the wire **320** and at least one light module **330**. In the exemplified embodiment, the string of lights **340** comprises a plurality of the light modules **330**. Specifically, in the exemplified embodiment the string of lights **340** is illustrated with four light modules **330**. Of course, the invention is not to be limited by the number of light modules **330** that are in the string of lights **340** in all embodiments.

The wire **320** is connected to and extends out from the controller **310** and into each light module **330** of the string of lights **340**. More specifically, the wire **320** is electrically coupled to the integrated circuit of the controller **310**, which is located within the housing **315**, so that the wire **320** can transmit power to the light modules **330** when the switch **312** is in the "on" position as has been discussed above. Furthermore, the wire **320** extends into and is electrically coupled to each of the light modules **330**. Thus, the wire **320** connects adjacent light modules **330** and provides power from the power source of the controller **310** to each light module **330**. In the exemplified embodiment, the wire **320** is flexible. Of course, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the wire **320** can be rigid or otherwise inflexible. However, flexibility in the wire **320** is preferred to enable the light modules **330** to be connected to the paperboard sheet **400** in a variety of configurations.

As noted above, the light modules **330** are arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of the wire **320**. In certain embodiments, the light modules **330** are spaced apart along the length of wire **320** between 3 and 10 inches, and more preferably approximately 5 inches. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the light modules **330** may be spaced apart more than 10 inches or less than 3 inches in certain other embodiments. Further, in still other embodiments, the spacing distance between adjacent light modules **330** may vary along the length of wire **320**.

Each light module **330** comprises a neck portion **332** and the light portion **334**. Furthermore, as has been described herein above, each light module **330** is configured to illuminate light. Therefore, each light module **330** comprises an illumination element (not shown) that is located within a housing **337** of the light module **330**. The housing **337** forms both the neck portion **332** and the light portion **334** of the light module **330**. The neck portion **332** comprises a proximal end **331** and a distal end **333**. Furthermore, the light module **330** receives the wire **320** through the proximal end **331** of the neck portion **332** to facilitate providing power to the light module **330** for illuminating the light portion **334** of the light module **330**.

The neck portion **332** is narrowed relative to the light portion **334**. Thus, as will be described below with reference to FIGS. **4**A and **4**B, when the light module **330** is located within a hole formed into the paperboard sheet **400**, the light portion **334** protrudes from the hole and extends from a front surface of the paperboard sheet **400** while the neck portion **332** is positioned within the hole. Because the light portion **334** has a larger diameter than the neck portion **332**, the light portion **334** is not easily pulled through the hole once inserted therein. The neck portion **332** is generally cylindrical in shape and has a substantially circular cross-section. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the

cross section of the neck portion **332** may be any other shape such as, for example, conical, triangular, rectangular, hexagonal, octagonal, or the like.

The light portion **334** of each light module **330** extends from a proximal end **335** to a distal end **336**. The light portion **334**, and more specifically the portion of the housing **337** that forms the light portion **334**, is configured to be light transmissive. In the exemplified embodiment, the light portion **334**, or the portion of the housing **337** that forms the light portion **334**, is made of a hard plastic. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the light portion **334** may be made of any material that is light transmissive such as, for example, glass or plastic. The proximal end **335** of the light portion **334** is adjacent to the distal end **333** of the neck portion **332** and the proximal end **335** of the light portion **334** forms an annular flange relative to the distal end **333** of the neck portion **332** that assists in preventing pull-through of the light module **330**. The light portion **334** is generally cylindrical in shape and has a substantially circular cross-section. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the cross section of the light portion **334** may be any other shape such as, for example, conical, triangular, rectangular, hexagonal, or octagonal.

The neck portion **332** of each light module **330** has a maximum transverse diameter D_N, and the light portion **334** of each light module **330** has a maximum transverse diameter D_L. In the exemplified embodiment, the maximum transverse diameter D_N of the neck portion **332** is less than the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334**. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and the maximum transverse diameter D_N of the neck portion **332** can be equal to or greater than the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** in other embodiments.

Furthermore, in the exemplified embodiment the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** is substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **230**. Thus, the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** is similarly substantially equal to the maximum diameters of the holes formed by the punch portion **230** into the paperboard sheet **230**. In certain other embodiments, the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** is up to 10% greater than the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **330**. Thus, the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** is similarly up to 10% greater than the maximum diameters of the holes formed by the punch portion **230** into the paperboard sheet **400**. Of course, in still other embodiments, the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** may be more than 10% greater than the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **330**.

When supplied with power from the power source of the controller **310** and through the wire **320**, each light module **330**, and more specifically a light source housed within each light module **330**, is made to illuminate. In one embodiment, each light module **330** is configured to illuminate white light. However, in other embodiments each light module **330** may illuminate another color light, such as, for example, blue, red, yellow, green, purple, or orange light. Further, in other embodiments some of the light modules **330** of the string of lights **340** may illuminate one color light while other light modules **330** on the string of lights **340** may illuminate another color light. The light modules **330** of the string of lights **340** need not all illuminate the same color light and can therefore illuminate various colors of light. In one embodiment, the string of lights **340** comprises twenty lights **330**. The invention, however, is not so limited and the string of lights **340** may comprise any number of light modules **330** such as, for example, ten lights, twelve lights, fifteen lights, twenty-five or more than twenty-five light modules **330**.

In one embodiment, the switch **312** of the controller **310** is configured for three settings, on, off and blinking/flashing. When the switch **312** is in the off position, no power is delivered from the controller **310** to the string of lights **340** so that none of the light modules **330** are illuminated. When the switch **312** is in the on position, power is delivered from the controller **310** to the string of lights **340** so that all of the light modules **330** are illuminated. When the switch **312** is in the blinking/flashing position, power is intermittently delivered from the controller **310** to the string of lights **340** so that all of the light modules **330** are intermittently illuminated. The invention, however, is not so limited and the switch **312** may be configured with more or less than three settings, and may be configured with settings other than on, off and blinking.

Referring now to FIGS. **1** and **2**C concurrently, the light transmissive cap **500** will be described in greater detail. As noted above, in certain embodiments the light transmissive cap **500** may be omitted from the package **100** such that the light transmissive cap **500** is separately packaged and sold relative to the hole punch **200** and the light assembly **300**. In such embodiments the kit **1000** comprises only the hole punch **200** and the light assembly **300**, and hence the package **100** contains only the hole punch **200** and the light assembly **300** therein.

In the exemplified embodiment, the light transmissive cap **500** is illustrated in the shape of a rabbit. Of course, the invention is not to be limited by the particular shape that the light transmissive cap **500** takes in all embodiments. Rather, in certain embodiments the light transmissive cap **500** may be in the shape of a three-dimensional decorative sculpture, such as an animal as is exemplified in FIGS. **1** and **2**C, or any other three-dimensional decorative sculpture such as, for example without limitation, an insect, a plant, a heart, a letter, a number, a vehicle, a logo, or the like. Further, the three-dimensional decorative sculpture may be of any size.

As will be discussed in more detail below with reference to FIGS. **7**A and **8**, the three-dimensional decorative structure may be formed with a bore therein, or an extending member having a bore formed therein may extend from a lower surface of the three-dimensional decorative structure. The bore is sized and configured for slidably receiving the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** therein as will be discussed below with reference to FIG. **7**B.

The light transmissive cap **500** is formed from a plastic material that is transmissive to light. Of course, the invention is not to be so limited and in certain other embodiments the light transmissive cap **500** can be formed from other materials that are transmissive to light such as glass. Furthermore, it should be appreciated that a light transmissive material is any material that enables light to pass through it. In certain embodiments, the light transmissive cap **500** is formed from a clear material to facilitate enabling light to pass therethrough. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the light transmissive cap **500** may take on other colors such as, for example without limitation, blue, green, red, purple, orange, yellow or the like, so long as the light transmissive cap **500** enables light to pass-through it. In still other embodiments, the light transmissive cap **500** may be decorated with features that alter the light as it illuminates through the light transmissive cap **500**, such as for example sparkles, glitter, and indentations or decorative grooves formed therein. As a result of its light transmissivity, light that illuminates from the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** will pass through the light

transmissive cap **500** when the light transmissive cap **500** is coupled to the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** as will be described below.

Referring to FIGS. **3**A-**3**C concurrently, a method of decorating the paperboard sheet **400** using the kit **1000** will be described. Referring first to FIG. **3**A, the paperboard sheet **400** and the hole punch **200** are provided. In the exemplified embodiment, the paperboard sheet **400** is a substantially flat paper-like sheet that is of the type commonly used for display or presentation, such as a piece of posterboard or foam board. The paperboard sheet **400** comprises a front surface **410** and an opposing rear surface **420**. The hole punch **200** is aligned with the paperboard sheet **400** such that the distal tip **232** of the punching portion **230** of the hole punch **200** is aligned with the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. Furthermore, in the exemplified embodiment the distal tip **232** is oriented substantially perpendicular to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. Of course, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the hole punch **200** may be oriented at an angle other than perpendicular to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**.

Referring no to FIG. **3**B, the method of decorating the paperboard sheet **400** will be further described. When it is desired to decorate the paperboard sheet **400**, the hole punch **200** is used to puncture a hole **440** into the paperboard sheet **400**. Specifically, the hole punch **200** is pushed against the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400** with sufficient force so that the distal tip **232** of the hole punch **200** punctures the paperboard sheet **400** and extends through the paperboard sheet **400** thereby forming a hole **440** into the paperboard sheet **400**. As the distal tip **232** extends through the paperboard sheet **400**, the distal tip **232** and at least a portion of the punch portion **230** of the hole punch **200** extends through the paperboard sheet **400** and protrudes from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. In certain embodiments, the hole punch **200** is extended into the paperboard sheet **400** until the shoulder **220** of the hole punch **200** abuts against the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. As a result, the hole **446** formed into the paperboard sheet **400** has a diameter D_H that is substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **230** of the hole punch **200**.

The puncturing of the paperboard sheet **400** creates projections **430** on the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. Specifically, the projections **430** are created as a result of the punch portion **230** extending through and displacing the portion of the paperboard sheet **400** that was located in the area that is now a hole **440** in the paperboard sheet **400**.

Referring to FIG. **3**C, the paperboard sheet **400** is illustrated after the punch portion **230** of the hole punch **200** has been used to create the hole **440** in the paperboard sheet **400** and has then been removed from the paperboard sheet **400**. As the hole punch **200** is pulled away from the paperboard sheet **400** via the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**, a hole **440** remains that extends from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400** to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. The hole **440** has substantially the same shape as the cross-sectional shape of the punch portion **230** of the hole punch **200**. The method described above and illustrated in FIGS. **3**A-**3**C may be repeated multiple times in order to create a plurality of the holes **440** in the paperboard sheet **400**. In certain embodiments, the number of holes **440** created in the paperboard sheet **400** is the same as the number of light modules **330** the user desires to have displayed on the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400** as will be described below with reference to FIGS. **4**A-**4**B.

Referring to FIGS. **4**A-**4**B concurrently, the method of decorating the paperboard sheet **400** will continue to be described with regard to inserting one of the light modules **330** into the paperboard sheet **400**. Referring to FIG. **4**A, the light module **330** is first positioned in alignment with one of the holes **440** that were formed into the paperboard sheet **400** using the hole punch **200**. Specifically, the light module **330** is positioned so that the distal end **336** of the light portion **334** of the light module **330** is adjacent to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. In the exemplified embodiment, the light module **330** is oriented substantially perpendicular to one of the holes **440** that were previously formed into the paperboard sheet **400**. However, in other embodiments, the light module **330** may be configured at an angle other than orthogonal to the hole **440**.

Referring to FIG. **4**B, inserting the light module **330** into the hole **440** will be further described. As noted above, the light portion **334** of the light module **330** is positioned into alignment and perpendicular to one of the holes **440** formed into the paperboard sheet **400**. Then, the light module **330** is pushed through the hole **440** via the rear surface **420** of the paper board **400** so that the light module **330** extends through the paperboard sheet **400** and exits out the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. In the exemplified embodiment, only the light portion **334**, and not the neck portion **332**, of the light module **330** protrudes from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**.

As noted above, the diameter D_H of the hole **440** is substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter D_P of the punch portion **230** of the hole punch **200**. Furthermore, the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** is substantially equal to, or up to 10% greater than, the diameter of the hole **440**. Thus, the light portion **334** securely fits through the hole **440** and extends through the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. In embodiments wherein the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** is greater than the diameter of the hole **440**, a slight amount of force can be used to facilitate inserting the light portion **334** through the hole **440**.

After the light modules **330** are inserted into the holes **440** in the paperboard sheet **400**, it is desirable that they be prevented from being pulled back through the holes **440**. Thus, in certain embodiments the projections **430** create pressure on the light portion **334**, thereby preventing it from escaping back through the hole **440** and out the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. Furthermore, in other embodiments the proximal end **335** of the light portion **334** abuts against the projections **430** and the front surface **410** of the paper board **400** to maintain the light portion **334** in the hole **440** after insertion therethrough. When the light portion **334** protrudes from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**, at least a portion of the neck portion **332** of the light module **330** is located within the hole **440** in the paperboard sheet **440**.

Referring now to FIG. **5**, the paperboard sheet **400** is illustrated with a plurality of the light modules **330** protruding from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. Each light module **330** protrudes through a respective hole **440** formed in the paperboard sheet **400** as described in detail above. In the exemplified embodiment, the wire **320** and the controller **310** are not visible from the front surface **410** of the paper board **400**. Therefore, the front surface **410** of the paper board **400** displays only the light modules **330** of the kit **1000** and any other illustrations, decorations, drawings, paintings or design that are made on the front surface **410** of the paperboard **400**. The invention, however, is not to be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the wire **320** and/or controller **310** may be visible from the front sur-

face **410** of the paper board **400**. Indicia, such as illustrations, decorations, drawings, paintings or other designs that are made on the front surface **410** of the paperboard **400** can be complemented by the light modules **330**.

Referring to FIG. **6**, the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400** is illustrated with multiple light modules **330** protruding through the holes **440** formed into the paperboard sheet **400**. Each light module **330** protrudes through one of the holes **440** in the paperboard sheet **400** via the rear surface **420**. As discussed above, the light modules **330** are arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of the wire **320**. Further, the neck portion **332** of each light module **330** is configured to protrude into but not through the holes **440** formed into the paperboard sheet **400**. Therefore, only the light portion **334** of each light module **330** is visible from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. The invention, however, is not to, be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the neck portion **332** of each or some of the light modules **330** may protrude through the paperboard sheet **400**.

When the light modules **330** are inserted through the holes **440** formed in the paperboard sheet **400** so that the light portions **334** protrude from the front surface **210** of the paperboard sheet **200**, the wire **320** of the light assembly **300** is located adjacent to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. In certain embodiments, at least portions of the wire **320** abut against the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. If desired, tape or other adhesive can be used to secure the wire **320** to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**.

Furthermore, the controller **310** is illustrated in FIG. **6** being positioned near the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**. In certain embodiments, the controller **310** may be taped or otherwise adhesively secured to the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400** so that it does not hang from the wire **320** in a manner so as to block the view of the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**.

Referring to FIG. **7**A, the light transmissive cap **500** will be further described. The light transmissive cap **500** comprises a top surface **501**, a bottom surface **502**, and a bore **510**. In the exemplified embodiment, the bore **510** is formed into the three-dimensional structure of the light transmissive cap **500**. The bore **510** is a cutout that extends into the light transmissive cap **500** from an opening **507** in the bottom surface **502** of the light transmissive cap **500**. Specifically, the bore **510** extends into the light transmissive cap **500** a distance that is equal to or greater than a height of the light module **334** measured from the proximal end **335** of the light module **334** to the distal end **336** of the light module **334**. The bore **510** has a shape and size that corresponds to the shape and size of the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** so that the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** can be detachably retained within the bore **510** by an interference fit as will be discussed below with reference to FIG. **8**. Thus, the bore **510** has a transverse cross-sectional profile that forms the interference fit with a transverse cross-sectional profile of the light portion **334** of the light module **330**. As has been discussed above, the light transmissive cap **500** is configured to allow light illuminating from a light portion **334** of a light module **330** to transmit through it.

Referring to FIG. **7**B, an alternative embodiment of a light transmissive cap **600** is illustrated in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The light transmissive cap **600** comprises a decorative portion **605**, and an extending member **620**, and an annular flange **631**. The decorative portion **605** of the light transmissive cap **600** can be any one of the three-dimensional sculptures described above with regard to the light transmissive cap **500**, or it can simply be a feature having a round, square, or other shape. Thus, the light transmissive cap **600** is the same as the light transmissive cap **500** except that the bore **610** of the light transmissive cap **600** is formed into the extending member **620** that extends from a decorative portion **605** of the light transmissive cap **600** rather than being formed directly into the decorative portion.

In the exemplified embodiment, the extending member **620** is cylindrical in shape so as to transverse cross-sectional profile that forms an interference fit with the transverse cross-sectional profile of the light portions **334** of the light modules **330**. However, the invention is not to be so limited and the extending member **620** can take on other shapes as desired. The extending member **620** extends axially from a bottom surface **606** of the decorative portion **605** of the light transmissive cap **600**. Furthermore, the extending member **630** comprises a bore **610** formed therein. The bore **610** extends into the extending member **620** from an opening **607** in a bottom surface **602** of the extending member **620** a distance that is equal to or greater than a height of the light portion **334** measured from the proximal end **335** of the light portion **334** to the distal end **336** of the light portion **334**. The bore **610** has a shape and size that corresponds to the shape and size of the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** so that the light portion **334** of the light modules **330** can be detachably retained within the bore **610** by an interference fit as will be discussed below with reference to FIG. **8**.

The annular flange **631** extends radially outward from the extending member **620** at or near the bottom of the extending member **620**. Thus, when the light transmissive cap **600** is detachably coupled to the light portion **334** of the light module **330**, the annular flange **631** assists in preventing the light portion **334** of the light module **330** from being pulled back through the hole **440** within which it is inserted. The annular flange **631** abuts against the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400** when the light transmissive cap **600** is coupled to the light portion **334** of the light module **330** that is inserted into one of the holes **440** in the paperboard sheet **400**.

Referring now to FIG. **7**C, a second alternative embodiment of a light transmissive cap **900** will be described. The light transmissive cap **900** is the same as the light transmissive cap **600** except that the light transmissive cap **900** does not have an annular flange. Thus, the light transmissive cap **900** merely comprises a decorative portion **905** and an extending member **920** that extends from a bottom surface **906** of the decorative portion **905**. The extending member **920** comprises a bore **910** formed therein for detachably coupling the light transmissive cap **900** to one of the light modules **330** as will be described in more detail below. The decorative portion **905** of the light transmissive cap **900** can take the form of any of the three-dimensional sculptures described above with regard to the light transmissive cap **500**, or it can simply be a feature having a round, square, or other shape.

Referring to FIG. **8**, a fully assembled display system is illustrated such that the light module **330** is positioned within one of the holes **440** in the paperboard sheet **400** and the light transmissive cap **500** is detachably coupled to the light portion **334** of the light module **330**. Specifically, in FIG. **8** the light portion **334** of the light module **330** extends through the hole **440** in the paperboard sheet **400** and protrudes from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**. Moreover, at least a first portion **339** of the neck portion **332** of the light module **330** is located within the hole **440** in the paperboard sheet **400** while a second portion **349** of the neck portion **332** of the light module **330** protrudes from the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**.

The light transmissive cap **500** is detachably coupled to the light portion **334** of the light module **330** such that the light portion **334** of the light module **330** is retained within the bore **510** of the light transmissive cap **500** by interference fit. The bore **510** of the light transmissive cap **500** circumferentially surrounds the light portion **334** of the light module **330** to retain the light module **330** therein. Thus, in the exemplified embodiment the paperboard sheet **400** is disposed between the bottom surface **502** of the light transmissive cap **500** and the second portion of the light portion **334** of the light module **330**. In certain embodiments as will be discussed below with reference to FIGS. **9**A and **9**B, the light module may include a flange such that after assembly the paperboard sheet **400** is disposed between the bottom surface **502** of the light transmissive cap **500** (or the annular flange **631** of the light transmissive cap **600**) and the flange of the light module.

In the exemplified embodiment, the height H_B of the bore **510** is greater than the height H_L of the light portion **334** of the light module **330**. However, the invention is not to be so limited in all embodiments and in certain other embodiments the height H_B of the bore **510** is substantially equal to the height H_L of the light portion **334** of the light module **330**.

After assembling the display system such that the light portion **334** of the light module **330** protrudes from the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400** and the light transmissive cap **500** is detachably coupled to the light transmissive portion **334** of the light module **330**, the light portion **334** can be in an on mode whereby it is illuminating a light, an off mode whereby it is not illuminating light, or a flashing mode whereby the light portions **334** are flashing on and off repeatedly. When the light portion is in the on mode and is illuminating light, the illuminated light passes through the light transmissive cap **500** to be viewed.

Referring to FIG. **9**A, an alternate embodiment of a light module **730** is illustrated. The light module **730** is substantially similar to the light module **330** described above with respect to FIG. **2**B, except the light module **730** comprises a flange **750** and an annular groove **738**. Thus, the light module **730** comprises a neck portion **732**, a light portion **734**, the flange **750** and the annular groove **738**.

The flange **750** is an annular flange that extends radially outward from the light module **730** at a location on the light module **730** that is in between the neck portion **732** and the light portion **734**. More specifically, the flange **750** is a transversely extending flange located between the proximal end **733** of the neck portion **332** and the annual groove **338**. The flange **750** comprises a top surface **751** and an opposing bottom surface **752**. The flange **750** is configured so that when the light portion **734** of the light module **730** is protruding through the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**, the top surface **751** of the flange **750** abuts the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**, thereby preventing the neck portion **732** from protruding through the paperboard sheet **400**. As noted above, when the light module **730** is used in place of the light module **330**, the paperboard sheet **400** is located between the bottom surface **502** of the light transmissive cap **500** and the flange **750** of the light module **730**. The flange **350** has a maximum transverse diameter D_F that is larger than the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334**. Furthermore, the maximum transverse diameter D_F of the flange **750** is also larger than the maximum transverse diameter D_N of the neck portion **332**, and larger than the maximum transverse diameter of the hole **440** formed by the hole punch **200**.

The annular groove **738** is located between the distal end **735** of the light portion **734** and the top surface **751** of the flange **750**. The annular groove **738** is configured so that when the light portion **734** of the light module **730** is protruding through the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400** (as shown in FIG. **8**), the paperboard sheet **400** extends into and is positioned within the annular groove **738** to securely attach the light module **730** into the paperboard sheet **400**. Thus, the annular groove **738** facilitates preventing the light module **730** from easily exiting back through the paperboard sheet **400** via the rear surface **420**. When the paperboard sheet **400** is positioned within the annular groove **738**, the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400** abuts the top surface **751** of the flange **750** and the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400** abuts the distal end **735** of the light portion **734**. The annular groove **738** has a transverse diameter D_G that is smaller than the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **334** and smaller than the maximum transverse diameter D_F of the flange **350**.

Referring to FIG. **9**B, another alternate embodiment of a light module **800** is illustrated in accordance with an embodiment of the present invention. The light module **830** is substantially similar to the light module **730** of FIG. **9**A, except the light module **830** does not comprise an annular groove. Thus, the light module **830** comprises a neck portion **832**, a light portion **834** and a flange **850**. The flange **850** comprises a top surface **851** and a bottom surface **852**. The flange **850** is a transversely extending flange located between the proximal end **833** of the neck portion **832** and the distal end **835** of the light portion **834**. The flange **850** has a maximum transverse diameter that is larger than the maximum transverse diameter D_L of the light portion **834** and larger than the maximum transverse diameter of the hole **440**. The flange **850** is configured so that when the light portion **834** of the light module **830** is protruding through the front surface **410** of the paperboard sheet **400**, the top surface **851** of the flange **850** abuts the rear surface **420** of the paperboard sheet **400**, thereby preventing the neck portion **832** from protruding through the paper board **400**.

As used throughout, ranges are used as shorthand for describing each and every value that is within the range. Any value within the range can be selected as the terminus of the range. In addition, all references cited herein are hereby incorporated by referenced in their entireties. In the event of a conflict in a definition in the present disclosure and that of a cited reference, the present disclosure controls.

While the foregoing description and drawings represent the exemplary embodiments of the present invention, it will be understood that various additions, modifications and substitutions may be made therein without departing from the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined in the accompanying claims. In particular, it will be clear to those skilled in the art that the present invention may be embodied in other specific forms, structures, arrangements, proportions, sizes, and with other elements, materials, and components, without departing from the spirit or essential characteristics thereof. One skilled in the art will appreciate that the invention may be used with many modifications of structure, arrangement, proportions, sizes, materials, and components and otherwise, used in the practice of the invention, which are particularly adapted to specific environments and operative requirements without departing from the principles of the present invention. The presently disclosed embodiments are therefore to be considered in all respects as illustrative and not restrictive and the scope of the invention is not limited to the foregoing description or embodiments.

What is claimed is:

1. A kit for decorating a paperboard sheet comprising:

a package;

a hole punch comprising a handle portion and a punching portion, the punching portion having a tapered section that terminates in a distal tip, the punching portion having a maximum transverse diameter; and

a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state and a neck portion, the neck portion having a maximum transverse diameter that is less than a maximum transverse diameter of the light portion, wherein the neck portion extends from a proximal end to a distal end and the light portion extends from a proximal end to a distal end, the proximal end of the light portion being adjacent to the distal end of the neck portion, the proximal end of the light portion having the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion and forming an annular flange relative to the distal end of the neck portion;

wherein the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion is greater than the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion; and

wherein the hole punch and the light assembly are disposed within the package.

2. The kit of claim 1 wherein the hole punch further comprises a longitudinal axis and a transverse shoulder located between the handle portion and the punching portion, the transverse shoulder extending radially outward from an outer surface of the punching portion to an outer surface of the handle portion, the handle portion and the punching portion extending along the longitudinal axis, the transverse shoulder having a maximum transverse diameter that is greater than the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

3. The kit of claim 2 wherein the handle portion is an elongated member terminating at a distal end, the transverse shoulder located at the distal end of the handle portion and forming an annular flange at a base of the punching portion, and the punching portion extending from the transverse shoulder.

4. The kit of claim 1 further comprising at least one light transmissive cap comprising a bore configured to receive and detachably retain the light portion of the light module, the bore having a transverse cross-sectional profile that forms an interference fit with a transverse cross-sectional profile of the light portion of the light module.

5. The kit of claim 4 wherein the light transmissive cap comprises at least one three-dimensional decorative sculpture.

6. The kit of claim 1 wherein the light module further comprises a transversely extending flange and an annular groove located between the light portion and the transversely extending flange, the transversely extending flange having a maximum transverse diameter that is larger than the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion.

7. A kit for decorating a paperboard sheet comprising:

a package;

a hole punch extending along a longitudinal axis and being formed entirely of a material selected from the group consisting of wood and plastic, the hole punch comprising a handle portion and a punching portion, the handle portion extending from a proximal end to a distal end and terminating at a transverse shoulder that forms the distal end, the transverse shoulder forming an annular flange at a base of the punching portion, the punching portion extending from the transverse shoulder, the punching portion having a tapered section that terminates in a rounded distal tip, the transverse shoulder having a maximum transverse diameter that is greater than a maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion, the handle portion having a length and the punching portion having a length, a ratio of the length of the handle portion to the length of the punching portion being between 6:1 and 10:1;

a light assembly comprising a string of lights, the string of lights comprising a plurality of light modules arranged in a spaced apart manner along a length of wire, each of the light modules comprising a light portion capable of being alternated between an illuminated state and a non-illuminated state; and

wherein the hole punch and the light assembly are disposed within the package.

8. The kit of claim 7 wherein the length of the handle portion is between 12 cm and 13 cm and wherein the length of the punching portion is between 1.3 cm and 2.0 cm.

9. The kit of claim 7 wherein the light portion has a maximum transverse diameter and the punching portion has a maximum transverse diameter, the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion being up to 10% greater than the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

10. The kit of claim 9 wherein the maximum transverse diameter of the light portion is substantially equal to the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion.

11. The kit of claim 7 wherein the handle portion has a substantially constant diameter along a length of the handle portion, the diameter of the handle portion being between 7 mm and 8 mm, and wherein the maximum transverse diameter of the punching portion is between 3 mm and 5 mm.

12. The kit of claim 7 wherein the punching portion comprises a non-tapered section that extends from the transverse shoulder to a transition point and the tapered section that extends from the transition point to the rounded distal tip of the punching portion, the non-tapered section of the punching portion having a substantially constant diameter and the tapered section having a diameter that decreases with axial distance from the transition point towards the rounded distal tip.

13. The kit of claim 7 wherein the transverse shoulder extends radially outward from an outer surface of the punching portion to an outer surface of the handle portion.

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